

Based on findings of more than 35 years of research, the Panel reports the following ingredients of what students need to learn if they are to read proficiently:

Phonemic Awareness—letters represent sounds.

Systematic phonics instruction—a necessary, but not sufficient, component of learning to read.

Reading Fluency—rapid decoding of words, practiced until it is automatic.

Spelling—accurate spelling, not the invented kind.

Writing Clearly—which leads to developing good reading comprehension skills.

I believe if we are to eliminate the reading deficit, then it is necessary for students to be taught all of these necessary skills.

Complimentary to the legislation being introduced today is the Literacy Involves Families Together (LIFT) Bill, which I am pleased is part of the Reading Deficit Elimination Act. In addition, Republicans pushed to pass the Reading Excellence Act, which was signed into law by the president in 1998. It is helping teachers in low-income areas and in schools where there is a high illiteracy rate to apply the scientific principles of reading instruction in the classroom.

When President John Kennedy launched Project Apollo in 1962, and set a goal of sending a man to the moon by the end of the decade, all America cheered. That goal was met when Neil Armstrong set foot on the moon in July of 1969.

Our determination to eliminate the reading deficit is no less challenging than going to the moon, and it is equally achievable. For the sake of our children, and the future of our nation, we must not let them down.

I hope we can come together as a nation to cheer on the elimination of the reading deficit for all our children. The Reading Deficit Elimination Act is an important step in that direction.

TRIBUTE TO U.P. LABOR HALL OF
FAME CHESTER F. SWANSON

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 13, 2000

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to the late Chester F. Swanson, one of that great breed of dedicated, lifelong union activists who help ensure a good quality of life for the working men and women of northern Michigan. I offer these remarks on the occasion of Chester's election to the Michigan's Upper Peninsula Labor Hall of Fame.

At age 15 in 1921, Chester began working for a famed gunmaker in my district, Marble Arms Corp. in Escanaba, Mich. He retired from the corporation after 50 years of service, but he returned many times after this retirement to help with the set-up of machines used to make gun sights.

In 1945 a charter was issued by the United Auto Workers for Local 126 at Marble Arms. Proud that the union had come to his shop, Chester made the drive across northern Michigan and took the ferry across the Straits of

Mackinac to pick up the charter. He never stopped being a union advocate from that moment on, serving as the local's financial secretary and union steward.

Although Chester died almost 30 years ago, Mr. Speaker, one can still hear many wonderful stories that paint a picture of a man who took joy in each day, who made great friendships, who was respected by his co-workers, even the younger workers who remember him so fondly.

Gary Quick, UAW International Representative for Region 1-D, recalls that when Chester traveled, he called his mother each day, and when he completed the call he would return to his group and announce, "All is fine with Mum!"

Gary also recalls one icy winter night—a black, black night with the temperatures about 30 below zero—when the union leadership, including Chester, found itself traveling home from a meeting about 60 miles away. A side trip was required to take one of the members home in the small community of Rock, a trip on back roads with snowbanks higher than the automobile. Chester wondered aloud if the gang would survive the trip, should they run into trouble. For years afterward, Gary says, Chester would be sure to say, "We made it that cold night to drop off Red in Rock, so I guess we will make it wherever . . ."

Friends recall that Chester, even at the age of 90 years young, would eat his three good meals every day, would be ready to stay out with the younger fellows until late at night and would be ready to go again in the morning.

They recall that Chester never forgot his camera for important events, recording friends and sharing the prints, and maintaining a photo record of area youth participating in local sports.

Most of all, Mr. Speaker, friends remember Chester as a union man, who cared about his fellow workers, his community, and who cared about the job he performed with pride for more than half a century.

RECOGNIZING CARLISLE AND
MCCORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 13, 2000

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize two schools in my district that have been recognized by the U.S. Department of Education for their achievements as Title I schools.

These schools, Carlisle Elementary Schools in Boaz, Alabama and McCord Elementary School in Albertville, Alabama, were selected for this award through a competitive process coordinated and managed by the state education agency. The principals of these schools, Ms. Kim Mintz and Mr. Richard Cole respectively, deserve this national recognition for their unwavering dedication to the academic achievement of their students.

Title I schools are located in high poverty areas and receive funding to improve teacher training and learning for at-risk children. These two schools and the 97 others in the nation

that are also receiving these awards, are schools that have far exceeded expectations; they have truly gone the extra mile to give these children a chance to succeed. In turn, these children, supported by their families, have worked hard and set an example for students everywhere.

The recognition is based on six criteria: opportunity for all children to meet proficient and advanced levels of performance; professional development for teachers and administrators; coordination with other programs; curriculum development and instruction to support achievement to high standards; partnerships developed among the school, parents, and the local community; and three years of successful achievement and testing data.

The awards will be presented on May 2 in Indianapolis at the 2000 International Reading Association Conference. Mr. Speaker, I commend the faculty, staff, parents, and students for making these schools such a landmark of achievement in the State of Alabama.

CELEBRATING DICK DALE, KING
OF THE SURF GUITAR

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 13, 2000

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, today I celebrate the achievements of Dick Dale, a resident of Twentynine Palms, California, in the heart of the 40th district. Better known as the King of Surf Guitar, Dick Dale is a gifted musician who defined a music style in the early 1960s that is still enjoyed by millions of music-lovers the world over.

Surf music, which attempts to capture the feeling of riding the waves on a surfboard, was a uniquely American style of music known as the "California Sound." Along with his group, the Del-Tones, Dale composed and recorded the first surf record, which lit the fuse in 1961 for the national explosion of the surf music craze. He also helped pioneer the development of electronic reverberation and concert-quality amplifiers and speakers. Dale has recorded for NASA, Disneyland, and a multitude of commercials, television shows, and movies. The recipient of countless awards, Dale has been nominated for a Grammy and is enshrined in the Surfing Hall of Fame.

Beyond his musical talent, Dale is an accomplished horseman, exotic animal trainer, surfer, martial arts expert, archer, and pilot. In addition to his recording and performing career, Dale has worked tirelessly to clean up the world's oceans and protect endangered wild animals. He has donated the proceeds of some recordings to the Burn Treatment Center at the University of California.

Dick Dale has not been content to sit back as a legend. This superb musician and innovator is still performing and has won over a whole new generation of fans as well as maintained his legion of long time admirers. He always has time for his devoted fans, often signing autographs and swapping stories for hours after his concerts. Dick Dale is an American original and will forever be the King of Surf Guitar.